(b) As per the policy, 0.75% of the profit after tax (PAT) is allocated for the Corporate Social Responsibilities (CSR) activities under Corporate Citizenship Policy. (CCP).

(c) An amount of Rs. 273.90 lakhs was spent for the above activities during 2005-06 in Gujarat which includes SC/ST Component Plan.

Allocation of funds for works in public interest

†2360. SHRI SURYAKANTBHAI ACHARYA:
SHRI JAYANTILAL BAROT:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Oil, Hindustan Petroluem and Bharat Petroleum allocate any funds each year for works related to public interest in and around areas where factories and refineries of these companies are located; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of year-wise allocation of funds are given below:

(Rs. in lakhs)

Company	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
IOC	1076	1276	801	806
BPCL	76	72	90	103
HPCL	100	80	125	110

Non-buying of bio-diesel by oil companies

†2361. SHRI SURENDRA LATH:
SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether bio-diesel is being made from Jatropha or Pongamia;

(b) if so, the quantum of bio-diesel made therefrom;

(c) whether it is a fact that oil companies are not buying oil made from Jatropha or Pongamia;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps being taken by Government to promote bio-diesel?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) and (b) The non edible oil produced from Jatropha, Pongamia, trees is feedstock for production of bio-diesel.

The bio-diesel industry is at nascent stage of growth. Ministry of Rural Development is the Nodal Ministry for National Mission on bio-diesel for production of bio-diesel.

(c) and (d) Public Sector, Oil Marketing Companies have not been able to purchase bio-diesel at the identified purchase centres so far, as the parties who have expressed interest are not willing to supply at the declared price. Facilities are not yet ready with other parties who have expressed their interest.

(e) To encourage production of bio-diesel in the country, the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas announced a Bio-diesel Purchase Policy, in October 2005, effective 1.1.2006. The Policy has identified 20 purchase centres of the public sector oil marketing companies (OMCs) all over the country. The OMCs would purchase bio-diesel meeting the standards prescribed by the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), from those bio-diesel manufacturers who register with them after satisfying the technical specifications, at a specified delivered price. Depending upon felt need and preparedness, the OMCs could also open more purchase centres.

A Detailed Project Report (DPR) on the National Mission on Bio-diesel has been submitted by the Ministry of Rural Development to the Planning Commission, which, *inter-alia*, envisages a Demonstration Project involving plantation of Jatropha in 4 lakh hectares of degraded forest and non-forest lands for manufacturing bio-diesel. The Planning

Commission has given 'in principle' approval to the DPR on demonstration phase estimated to cost Rs. 1286 crores over a period of 5 years.

Increase in prices of Naphtha

2362. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the prices of Naphtha has increased steeply since the re-imposition of excise duty;

(b) if so, the details of the prices of Naphtha from 2002, year-wise;

(c) whether the hike in the prices of Naphtha results in high production cost of power generated in Naphtha-based plants;

(d) if so, whether Government are considering exempting Naphtha from excise duty; and

(e) if not, the details of the steps Government propose to bring down the production cost of such power plants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) Naphtha is a dereguiated product and its prices are determined by the public sector oil marketing companies (OMCs) in line with movements in international market.

(b) The average basic selling price of Naphtha before excise duty, sales tax and other local levies ex-Mumbai for non-fertilizer customers is given below:

Year	Rs./MT
2002-03	14,585
2003-04	15,250
2004-05	20,590
2005-06	25,035
2006-07	28,520

(c) OMCs have informed that Government had granted exemption to all Naphtha based power plants from paying excise duty on Naphtha